



Town of Blades
OFFICE OF MAYOR & COUNCIL
20 W Fourth Street
Blades, Delaware 19973-4122
(P) 302.629.7366 (F) 302.629.0199

**MINUTES
APPROVED**

*Town Council Meeting
Hardin Hall
7:00PM
April 13, 2015*

Present: Mayor Michael J Smith, Vice-Mayor Russell Joseph, Councilman Robert Atkinson, Councilman John Reiss, Councilman Earl Chaffinch, Sr., Councilman David Ruff; Town Administrator Vikki Prettyman

Meeting Opened at 7:00pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from March 9th, 2015 Town Council Meeting; motion to accept in written form by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Joseph; motion passed.

Police Report – submitted by Chief Cooke; read by Commissioner Chaffinch.

BEDCO –No report submitted in time for the meeting.

P&Z – No meeting was held in March.

Committee Reports:

- Housing/Code – Report submitted by Marcus Trammell, read by Commissioner Reiss.
- Water report - submitted by Brandon Slater; read by Commissioner Atkinson. Back Up well is online.
- Streets - No written report. Commissioner Joseph stated the maintenance department is busy sprucing up the town for the anniversary celebrations and parade.
- Parks & Cemetery – Commissioner Ruff stated that the fence has been installed, new signage will go up; state has installed new signs for the safe school zone; clean up has been done at the cemetery.
- Police Report – No further information.
- Mayor's Report – Mayor Smith said many thanks for everyone's support over the last 6 years.

❖ Old Business:

- Extension of Chief Cooke's Police Contract: Motion to offer the Chief a one year extension to his current contract ending May 8th, 2015 to May 8th, 2016 by Councilman Chaffinch, seconded by Councilman Atkinson; motion passed; Councilman Reiss abstained from voting; all other votes were in the affirmative.

❖ New Business:

- Administer the Oath of Office to Elected Officials
 - Swore in Mayor Robert Atkinson
 - Swore in Councilman Lee Benningfield
 - Motion to appoint BJ Hardin as the councilman to serve out the balance of Councilman Atkinson's term by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Reiss; motion passed.



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- Swore in Councilman BJ Hardin
 - Nominations for Vice-Mayor of Council
 - Mayor Atkinson made the nomination for Vice-Mayor to be Russell Joseph; motion made by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Hardin; motion passed
 - Commissioner Appointment by Mayor
 - Housing: John Reiss
 - Water: BJ Hardin
 - Streets: Russell Joseph
 - Parks & Cemeteries: David Ruff
 - Police: Lee Benningfield
 - Motion by Councilman Hardin to approve the commissions as listed above; seconded by Councilman Joseph; motion passed
 - Appointment of Town Solicitor
 - Tim Willard, Fuqua, Yori & Willard in Georgetown
 - Motion to approve by Councilman Hardin; seconded by Councilman Joseph; motion passed with one No vote from Councilman Reiss.
 - Appointment of Tax Assessor
 - Larry Monihan will temporarily continue assessments
 - Motion to approve by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Benningfield; motion passed.
 - Proclamation: Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service
 - Recognizing our citizens, staff, and council that volunteer; showing our gratitude and appreciation for volunteering in our community and surrounding communities.
 - Motion to approve by Councilman Reiss; seconded by Councilman Benningfield; motion passed.
 - Resolution No. R02 2015.04.13 Honoring Councilman Earl Chaffinch, Sr.
 - Motion to approve by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Ruff; motion passed.
 - Resolution No. R03 2015.04.13 Honoring Mayor Michael J. Smith
 - Motion to approve by Councilman Joseph; seconded by Councilman Reiss; motion passed.
- ❖ Good of the Community
- Councilman Ruff reminded everyone of the celebrations on May 15th and 16th!

Mayor closed the meeting at 7:41pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Vikki Prettyman
Town Administrator

Town Council Meeting Minutes